

**REMARKS**

Claims 1-16 remain pending.

**Restriction Requirement**

The Examiner requires restriction between the following groups of claims:

- I. Claims 1 and 9;
- II. Claims 2, 3, 10, and 11;
- III. Claims 4-8 and 12-16.

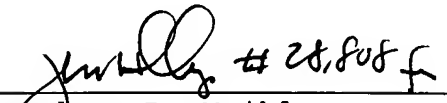
In response, applicants elect Group III (claims 4-8 and 12-16) for purposes of examination.

If necessary, the Commissioner is hereby authorized in this, concurrent, and future replies, to charge payment or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No. 02-2448 for any additional fees required under 37 C.F.R. § 1.16 or under 37 C.F.R. § 1.17; particularly, extension of time fees.

Respectfully submitted,

BIRCH, STEWART, KOLASCH & BIRCH, LLP

By

  
Andrew D. Meikle  
Registration No. 32,868

ADM/JWH/sh

P.O. Box 747  
Falls Church, VA 22040-0747